

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
September 2, 2003

The Edgefield County Council held its regular meeting at 6:00 P. M. Tuesday, September 2, 2003, in the County Council Chambers, 225 Jeter St., Edgefield.

Members present

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman
Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman
Norman Dorn, Councilman
Joel D. Hudson, Councilman
B. Everette Kitchens, Councilman

Others present

Wayne Adams, County Administrator
John F. Byrd, County Attorney
Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council
and others as per list attached

Chairman Kneece called the meeting to order and Councilman Hudson gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

Minutes

Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to approve the August 5, 2003, Minutes of the Edgefield County Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Councilman Dorn asked for an explanation of the letter from Sally Fox (Assessor) concerning the field work for the 2006 Reassessment. The Administrator stated that it was just to let the council members and the mayors know that her folks were out in the field doing the re-assessment work.

Chairman Kneece commented on the complimentary letters received concerning the recycling center on highway 23 (how well it is kept), and the County Archives Department.

Ordinances

Motion was made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 03-04-440, "An Ordinance Amending Edgefield County Ordinance No. 02-03-435 to Reduce Expenditures and Revenues Provided for in the FY 2003-04 General Operating Budget." Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

The following funding requests were received by Council:

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Civic League/Courtesy Center first quarter payment.....	\$4,000
Request from Civic League to open on Saturdays.....	\$3,000
 Golden Harvest Food Bank.....	 \$2,500
 Bowers-Rodgers Home.....	 \$800

Motion was made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Councilman Dorn, to approve the first quarter payment of \$4,000 to the Civic League/Courtesy Center. Motion carried unanimously. The Civic League's request for \$3,000 to open on Saturdays was discussed. Recommendation of Council was for the Civic League to consider closing one day during the week and open on Saturdays. Council understood the reasoning to open on Saturdays. Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Kitchens, that the Civic League survey the possibility of closing one day during the week and open on Saturday. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Kneece stated the \$3,000 request will be on hold until the survey is done.

Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Kitchens, to receive the \$2,500 funding request from Golden Harvest Foot Bank as information, and consider the request for the new budget year (2004-05). Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Chairman Kneece, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to deny the request of Bowers-Rodgers Home for funding of \$800.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Bright made a motion to approve the request from the Water and Sewer Authority for the reappointment of Henry Williams and Ray Johnson to the Water and Sewer Authority Board. The request will be directed to the local legislative delegation for consideration. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hudson. Motion carried unanimously.

The next item under New Business was the request for exemption from garbage fees for the Boy Scout Hut. Mrs. Carolyn Piekielniak was not present to address Council. Chairman Kneece explained that there are 563 parcels exempt from taxation and 154 parcels exempt but are paying a garbage fee. He stated that if council exempts this there will be 153 more that will want to be exempted. Would like to see the Boy Scouts take up a donation around the county to pay the \$80 garbage fee. The only ones exempted at present are churches. Chairman Kneece made the motion not to exempt any entity except churches. Motion seconded by Councilman Dorn. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Howard Gibson was present requesting a speed limit sign on Mt. Zion Road. Part of this road is state and then goes to county and then goes into Aiken County. Aiken County's part is paved and the speed limit is 55 miles per hour coming into the county. Comes to a narrow hill that is very dangerous. Two accidents have occurred there within

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the past two months. Mr. Gibson stated he had watched people coming through and felt 35 would be a reasonable speed. Councilman Bright asked about paving the dirt part. Howard said they are looking into the possibility of paving. Motion was made by Councilman Kneece, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to put a speed limit sign of 35 and then have Mr. Gibson look into the paving part of it. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Kitchens, to approve speed limit signs of 35 miles per hour in Mill Creek Subdivision, as per Deputy R. B. Harter's request. Motion carried unanimously.

Distribution of PARD funds was the next agenda item. The same distribution formula as last year for FY 2003. For the \$34,122 that is a previous balance, can either divide that among the entities or, as suggested in the memo, turn it over to the recreation commission for a recommendation. Have to get the towns' permission on that too. Of course, the commission would have to use the funds for building – bleachers in a certain facility, etc. These would be unspent funds from past years – not this year (\$25,000 allocation would be divided like we have done in the past.) Two questions: “Does council want to approve the traditional allocation for this year's money (\$25,580.50).” Second question: “What to do with previous balance funding, which does not have to be done tonight but two choices are to do it on the same per capita basis or to turn it over instead to the recreation commission for a recommendation.” Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Kitchens, to disburse the regular funding as in the past. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman recommended postponing the other and bring it back before council next month.

Old Business

Update on Detention Center repairs by Howard Gibson, Director of Building & Planning. The Administrator stated if there were no objections, we will proceed with the Design/Build Concept and solicit proposals. Consensus of council to proceed.

Executive Session

Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Kitchens, to convene in executive session under Code Section 30-4-70 (a) (1) of the SC Code of Laws 1976, to discuss the employment of a recreation director, pursuant to Edgefield County Ordinance No. 03-04-437, returning to regular session at the discretion of the chairman. Motion carried.

Returning to regular session, it was the consensus of council to authorize Mr. Adams to pursue negotiations to hire a recreation director.

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Claims approved as follows:

A. PAYROLL: 8/04/03 thru 8/17/03

Regular.....\$106,394.74

PAYROLL: 8/18/03 thru 8/31/03

B. GENERAL OPERATING.....\$255,718.93

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Bright, to adjourn. A Public Hearing and a Called Council meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, September 9th, and the regular meeting of council is scheduled for Tuesday, October 7, 2003.

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman

Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman

Norman Dorn, Councilman

Joel D. Hudson, Councilman

B. Everette Kitchens, Councilman

ATTEST

Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council

